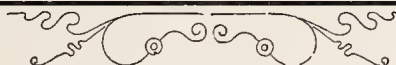


COMPSTALL  
Urban District Council.



# Annual Reports



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,


— AND —

Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances,

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

HYDE :

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# **To the Chairman and Members of the Compstall Urban District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the Health of the District during the year 1909.

The Parish of Compstall, formerly part of the Stockport Rural District Sanitary Authority, was constituted an Urban District as from March 31st, 1902, by an order of the County Council of Chester, dated the 16th May, 1901, and duly confirmed by the Local Government Board.

The District is hilly, and lies on the South and South-Eastern portion of the Werneth Hills, in the North-West of the County of Chester, and is separated from the Glossop Rural District by the River Etherow.

## **Boundaries.**

On the North the Borough of Hyde. On the West and South-West the Romiley and Bredbury Urban District. On the East and South-East the Glossop Rural District. The greater portion of the District is Rural in character; the Urban portion is small in area, and lies at the lower part of the South and South-Easterly side. The sub-soil is composed chiefly of clay and sand, with underlying rock.

## **Industries.**

Spinning and Weaving are the only chief Industries. Practically all the inhabitants of the Urban portion are employed at the Mills.

Those in the Rural part are chiefly occupied in Agriculture.

## **House Accommodation.**

The Houses are substantially built, and are of sufficient accommodation. There are plenty of open spaces, and the surroundings are clean. No case of overcrowding has been reported. No new houses have been erected. Plans have been submitted and passed for the erection of a New Hall and School in connection with St. Paul's Church.

## **Water Supply.**

The water supply is obtained from springs from the upland, and is stored in two reservoirs, from which the houses (with the exception of 3 or 4) in the Urban portion are supplied.

The Water is clear, palatable, of good quality, and plentiful. Precautions have been taken to prevent Flood water running into the Reservoirs, and thus contaminating the drinking water.

The Rural part is supplied from wells and springs. These are well protected from contamination, but they are always liable to become polluted, and, whenever possible, I advise your Council to connect the Houses with the Main from Reservoirs.

### **Milk Supply.**

The Milk is supplied by the Farmers in and outside the District. The Dairies are regularly inspected, and the Cow Sheds are kept clean, and well whitewashed.

### **Slaughter Houses.**

There is only one in the District. I have inspected this five or six times during the year, and found it satisfactory. The refuse is removed regularly. No carcasses, or parts of carcasses, have been condemned. No action under the Sale of "Food and Drugs" Act has been taken.

### **Sewerage and Drainage.**

The house drains are trapped and ventilated. The sewage consists of slop water and soap water, and is conveyed by the sewers to the reservoir which supplies river water to the Turbine at the Mills. Eventually it is discharged into the River. Owing to a complaint re the Nuisance from the odour arising from the Reservoir, the County Medical Officer of Health visited and inspected the Reservoir last August, and I understand he has forwarded his report and advice to your Council. Last year I advised your Council to adopt a new Sewerage scheme for the Urban portion. It is very advisable that steps should be taken, as early as possible, to have an efficient sewerage for this portion of the District. The River is no doubt polluted higher up, and contains chemical matter both in solution and suspension.

### **Excrement Disposal.**

The Owners of the Property remove all excreta and other refuse fairly regularly, but it would be better if a proper system of removal was adopted by your Council.

The Ashpits I mentioned in my last annual report, have been covered in, and are now in a more sanitary condition.

The greater portion of the House refuse is burned by the inhabitants,

## Nuisances.

Three cases have been reported during the year. On notification the nuisances were abated.

## Schools.

Th old schools have been re-modelled, and were opened early in the year.

They have been inspected, and found sanitary. There is a plentiful supply of water, and the Schools are of sufficient accommodation for the needs of the District.

The School Children are inspected by the Medical Officer of Schools appointed by the County.

## Inspection of Mills.

These have been inspected regularly by the Sanitary Inspector and myself, and found in a sanitary condition. No defects or nuisances were found.

## Statistics.

The area of the District (exclusive of area covered by water) is 897 acres.

The Population at Census, 1901, was 875.

The Population at Census, 1891, was 1,012.

Decrease during decennium 1891-1901 was 137, or 13.5 per cent.

This was due to the closure of the Printworks. I estimate the population for year 1909 to be 890. Number of houses inhabited in July, 1909, was 226. Average number of persons per house, 3.9.

## Vital Statistics.

	Male.		Female.		Total.
Births ... ..	12	.....	10	.....	22
Deaths ... ..	10	.....	3	.....	13

Two of the deaths were residents who died in Institutions outside the District.

The Birth Rate for Year 1909 is 24 per 1,000, and is higher than last year's, which was 20 per 1,000.

The Death Rate for Year 1909 is 14.6 per 1,000, and is also higher than last year's, which was 9 per 1,000.

Of infants under one year there was one death.



Rate of Infantile Mortality, based on the number of deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 registered births—45 per 1,000.

The following table gives the ages at which the deaths occurred:

Under one year... ..	1
One and under 5 years ... ..	1
5 and under 15 years ... ..	Nil.
15 and under 25 years ... ..	1
25 and under 65 years ... ..	5
65 and upwards... ..	5

The Deaths from Classified Diseases were:—

Enteric Fever ... ..	1
Cancer... ..	1
Tubercular Meningitis... ..	1
Bronchitis ... ..	1
Heart Disease ... ..	1
Pneumonia... ..	1
Gastro Enteritis ... ..	1

From unclassified Diseases:—

Senile Decay ... ..	2
Appendicitis ... ..	1
Bright's Disease ... ..	1
Congenital Weakness ... ..	1
Peritonitis... ..	1

## Infectious Diseases.

### SCARLET FEVER.

Three cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year. All the cases were mild.

One case occurred on March 13th, and was isolated at home.

One case occurred on March 27th, and was isolated at Hyde Hospital.

One case occurred on Dec. 22nd, and was isolated at home.

### ENTERIC FEVER.

One case occurred in August, and was isolated at home. The patient died from heart failure. The Bedding and House were disinfected. No cause could be found.

No other case of infectious disease was reported.

## **Prevention of Infection.**

All the affected houses were disinfected. Isolation of patient was properly carried out, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Bed Linen and Clothes were either destroyed or disinfected and washed.

Disinfectants are supplied free.

The notification of Phthisis is now compulsory in cases occurring amongst persons receiving Poor Law Medical Relief.

## **Isolation Hospital.**

An agreement has been made with the Hyde Infectious Hospital Authorities, by which your Council retain one bed, and may send more cases if requisite.

## **Recommendations.**

1. A Sewerage scheme for the Urban portion of the District.
2. A Disinfector for bedding and clothing.
3. Compulsory notification of Measles and Phthisis.

I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,

(.Signed),

**CHAS. H. HIBBERT,**

Medical Officer of Health.



## REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND NUISANCE INSPECTOR.

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### Roads.

The roads have been kept up to their usual condition of repair. Improvement is possible, of course, but the steepness of some parts makes it difficult to keep them as one would wish. Part of Cowlshaw Brow has been re-metalled, and two cases where the boundary walls had fallen into the roads have been attended to by the adjoining owners.

The upper portion of School Lane had got into a bad state, but the adjoining owners in this case also had it attended to on being notified. A footpath which had been used by the Public, leading from School Lane to Beacom Houses, was stopped some time ago by some of the farm tenants, but upon being spoken to about it they removed the obstructions, and the path is now open, as before.

A portion of Pinfold Lane was dangerous, owing to loose stones having fallen off the wall on to the road, but upon notice being served upon the owner of the adjoining land he had them removed.

A Motor Car "Danger" sign has been fixed at the top of Cowlshaw Brow.

### Plans.

Plans have been submitted and passed for a Closet at The Weir-head, for Messrs. G. Andrew and Sons. A Piggery at Needham's Farm, for Miss Radcliffe, and for a new Hall and Schools in connection with St. Paul's Church.

### Dangerous Buildings.

Dangerous Buildings were reported at Beacom House Farm and Low Top Farm, but both cases have been remedied.

### Sanitary.

Three cases of Nuisance have been reported and abated. The Medical Officer of Health and I have periodically inspected the Mill and other Premises, and where we found anything wrong it was reported and attended to.

The cellar dwellings in Kendrick Street have had trapped waste water pipes attached to their slopstones.

The County Medical Officer of Health paid a visit on August 27th, in consequence of a complaint about one of the reservoirs causing an offensive smell.

Three cases of Scarlet Fever have been disinfected for, and one of Typhoid Fever.

(Signed),

**S. HARGRAVES,**

Surveyor and Inspector.